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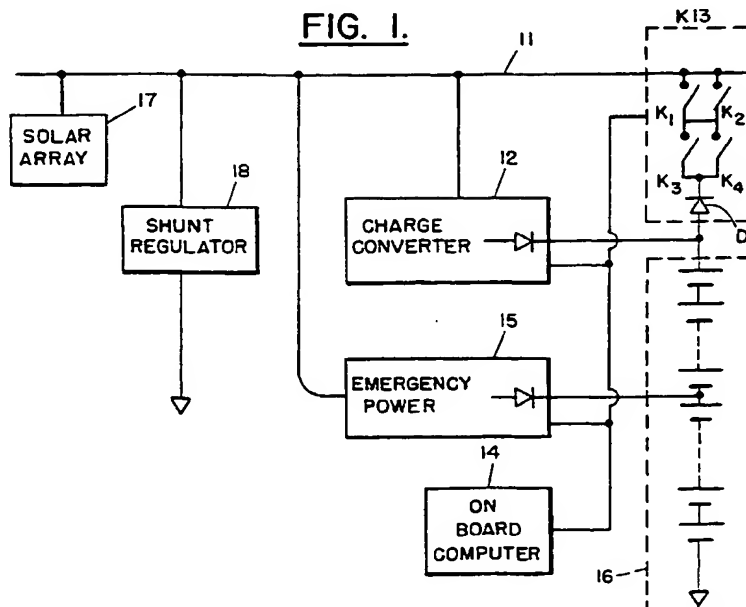
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(54) A spacecraft power system

(57) A spacecraft power system having an increased number of battery cells (16) that is charged to the battery's full capacity, which exceeds a predetermined maximum voltage allowed by a bus (11). The battery (16) can be disconnected from the bus (11) during charging. The battery (16) is then partially discharged

to accommodate the bus (11) before being reconnected. This provides a reduced voltage range experienced by the bus, as the minimum battery voltage is increased by the increased number of cells. A tap is provided to supply the bus (11) with power when the battery (16) is disconnected from the bus, and when a solar array (17) powering the bus fails to supply current to the bus.

FIG. 1.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 21 July 2000	Examiner Moyle, J
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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